

Listing of Claims

The listing of claims set forth below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of determining biliverdin concentration in a sample from an avian or reptilian species comprising: a) contacting the sample with biliverdin reductase; b) measuring a change in absorbance at about 325 to about ~~500~~750 nm; and c) determining biliverdin concentration by comparing the absorbance value obtained in step b) with absorbance values on a standard concentration curve.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of measuring increased biliverdin concentration in a sample from an avian or reptilian species comprising: a) contacting the sample with biliverdin reductase; and b) measuring a change in absorbance at about 325 nm to about ~~500~~750 nm, wherein a change in absorbance as compared to a control sample indicates increased biliverdin concentration in the sample.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of measuring above-normal levels of biliverdin concentration in a sample from an avian or reptilian species comprising: a) contacting the sample with biliverdin reductase; and b) measuring a change in absorbance at about 325 nm to about ~~500~~750 nm, wherein a change in absorbance as compared to values obtained from a control sample indicates an above-normal biliverdin concentration in the sample.

4. - 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn) A kit for measuring biliverdin concentration in a sample comprising:  
a) biliverdin reductase;

8. (Withdrawn) The kit of claim 7, further comprising a phosphate buffer.

9. (Withdrawn) The kit of claim 7, further comprising NADH.

10. (Withdrawn) The kit of claim 7, further comprising biliverdin.